

Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /141 W

----- 060591

R 281616Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0720

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PU

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TALKS WITH PAIGC

REF: LONDON 6513, ALGIERS 1154

1. DESPITE EARLY OPTIMISM ON PART OF PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER SOARES THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PAIGC WOULD BE COMPLETED BY MAY 27, THE NEGOTIATING SESSIONS ARE CONTINUING. SOARES HAS BEEN REPLACED BY DR. ANTONIO DE ALMEIDA SANTOS WITH THE PAIGC DELEGATION STILL HEADED BY MAJOR PEDRO PIRES. THERE IS SPECULATION THAT SOARES WILL RETURN TO LONDON IF AGREEMENT IS REACHED, PERHAPS LATER THIS WEEK.

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2. BOTH SIDES HAVE COMMENTED TO THE PRESS THAT THE AT-

MOSPHERE OF THE TALKS IS FRIENDLY AND AFTER THE MAY 27 MEETING SOARES SAID THEY ARE "PROGRESSING NORMALLY" ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT ON WHAT HE MEANT BY NORMALLY.

3. THE BRITISH PRESS HAS COMMENTED THAT THE TALKS ARE RUNNING INTO DIFFICULTIES. ACCORDING TO THE TIMES, THE PAIGC IS INSISTING THAT PORTUGAL:

A) RECOGNIZE THE "STATE" OF GUINEA-BISSAU AND GRANT THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE TO THE CAPE VERDIANS;

B) RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF INDEPENDENCE FOR ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE AND AGREE TO DISCUSS INDEPENDENCE WITH FRELIMO AND MPLA;

C) REGROUP PORTUGUESE FORCES INSIDE GUINEA-BISSAU. THUSFAR THE PAIGC DELEGATION HAS MAINTAINED ALMOST COMPLETE SILENCE WITH THE PRESS AND KEPT VERY MUCH TO ITSELF.

4. RE ALGIERS REFTEL, COLIN LEGUM WRITING IN THE OBSERVER ON MAY 26 SAID THE ALGERIANS HAD PERSUADED THE PAIGC TO COME TO LONDON DESPITE SEKOU TOURE'S OBJECTIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, GUINEA BISSAU, NEGOTIATIONS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON06591
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740133-0869
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740514/aaaaamhj.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LONDON 6513, ALGIERS 1154
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE TALKS WITH PAIGC
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PU, PAIGC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005